6th November 1947]

Claim for damage done to "Congress House."

* 113 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received a claim from the President, Tamilnad Congress Committee, for Rs. 80,300 in respect of damage done to the "Congress House," while the premises were under Police custody during 1942 to 1945 ;

(*b*) whether the Government disallowed the whole or part of the claim ; if in part what part ; and

(*c*) for what reason?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier) :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) & (*c*) The Government recognized no legal liability to pay the claim. However they sanctioned an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5,000. The Tamilnad Congress Committee has now declined to accept the amount and has asked for a reconsideration of the matter."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, which particular Minister is responsible for the rejection of this claim of the Tamilnad Congress Committee? Is it the Cabinet as a whole? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no question of any particular Minister, Sir. It is an order of the Government as a whole, because there is the joint responsibility."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Am I right that these claims were drawn up by the Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not think you are right in putting this question. Do not try to distinguish between one Minister and the Government."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether these claims are drawn by persons who are since in the Cabinet? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government have no information in the matter."

Certain particulars regarding detenus.

* 114 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of persons detained under the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947, until the 15th August 1947 ;

(*b*) the amount granted to them by way of family allowances until that date;

(*c*) the names of persons to whom Rs. 100 or above per month were granted as allowances;

(*d*) whether all the detenus were released on the eve of Independence Day ;

(e) whether any, and if so, how many persons have been detained under the Act since 15th August 1947 ; and

(f) the amount of monthly allowances paid to them at present?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (a) 271.

" (b) Family allowances ranging from Rs. 25 to Rs. 150 per mensem have been sanctioned, on the merits of each case to such of the detenus who applied for an allowance and who had families to be maintained.

" (c) (1) N. K. Krishnan, (2) S. C. C. Anthoni Pillai, (3) E. M. Sankaran Nambudripad, (4) P. Haridas Menon, (5) G. Samuel and (6) Dr. N. Annaji.

" (d) Yes.

" (e) None.

" (f) The question does not arise."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Are the Government aware that most of these moneys go to swell the funds of the party funds of those who have been detained? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Government have nothing to do with party funds. They give allowances according to the merits of each case and after a careful consideration of the needs of these people."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Are the Government satisfied that these family allowances are not diverted to political purposes? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Government are satisfied that they had families to be maintained." (Laughter.)

Historical note on the separation of judiciary from the executive.

* 115 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government asked the Record Office to prepare a Historical Note on the question of separation of the judiciary from the executive in this Province ;

(b) whether the Record Office has accordingly submitted the historical note setting out the plans proposed from time to time for the separation and the arguments that have been urged for and against the separation ; and

(c) whether the Government will place the historical note on the table of the House?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (a) & (b) Yes.

" (c) The report was obtained for the use of the Government and as the matter is confidential, the Government regret that they cannot place the report on the table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to place it at least in the Library of the Legislature? "